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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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07/30/2001

Frank S. Yuan

17059-1

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11/25/2008

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EXAMINER

GRAHAM, CLEMENT B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3696

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/25/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/918,334	Applicant(s) YUAN, FRANK S.	
	Examiner Clement B. Graham	Art Unit 3696	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 August 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19, 21-39, 41 and 42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19, 21-39, 41-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-19, 21-39, 41-42 remained pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-19, 21-39, 41-42 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mandler et al (Hereinafter Mandler U S Patent 6, 785, 661) in view of Applicant's disclosure.

As per claim 1-19, Mandler reference discloses a system for providing a sales transaction of goods or services between a buyer and a seller the system comprising: a coordinator that receives a first purchase order from the buyer that issues a second purchase order to the seller based on the first purchase order, that receives an invoice from the seller based on the second purchase order, and that assumes title in the invoice (see column 3 lines 34-67 and column 4 lines 22-55 and column 6 lines 7-55) and a bank that advances or loans at least a portion of the invoice to the seller based on the guarantee from the financial institution (see column 3 lines 34-67 and column 4 lines 22-55 and column 6 lines 7-55).

Mandler reference fail to explicitly teach a financial institution that receives an interest in the invoice from the coordinator, and that guarantees the buyer's payment.

However this is taught by the Applicant as disclosed in the Background of the Invention section of the specification of the present invention and is admitted prior art. The specification states on page 9, lines 17-22 and page 10 lines 1-2).

"Financial institutions have been used in connection with the sale of goods and services for some time. For example, if the seller meets certain qualifications, the seller may enter into an agreement with a financial institution whereby the financial institution will guarantee the buyer's credit worthiness or payment to the seller for goods sold. To this end, the financial institution may advance some or all of the payment to the seller and

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then go about collecting the account receivable from the buyer. In return, the financial institution typically receives a commission or some other fee from the seller. " [emphasis added].

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Mandler reference to include the teaching from the Applicant's background section so as to ensure payment on the sale and avoid difficulty in collecting payment from the buyer.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the MANDLER reference to include the teachings of the Applicant's background information with regard to a financial institution that receives an interest in the invoice from the coordinator, and that guarantees the buyer's payment, this is their incentive for providing the service, to generate a profit.

As per claim 2-39, 41-42, Mandler reference discloses a method for a coordinator to provide a sales transaction of goods or services between a buyer and a seller (see column 3 lines 34-67 and column 4 lines 22-55 and column 6 lines 7-55) the method comprising:

receiving a first purchase order from the buyer to the ; transmitting a second purchase order from the coordinator to the seller based on the first purchase order;
receiving an invoice from the seller based on the second purchase order, wherein the coordinator assumes title in the invoice (see column 3 lines 34-67 and column 4 lines 22-55 and column 6 lines 7-55) and advancing or loaning at least a portion of the invoice by the bank to guarantee payment to bank and allowing the bank to advance at least a portion of the invoice to the seller based on the guarantee from the seller from the financial institution (see column 3 lines 34-67 and column 4 lines 22-55 and column 6 lines 7-55).

Mandler reference fails to explicitly teach assigning an interest in the invoice to a financial institution, thereby allowing the financial institution to a bank.

However this is taught by the Applicant as disclosed in the Background of the Invention section of the specification of the present invention and is admitted prior art. The specification states on page 9, lines 17-22 and page 10 lines 1-2).

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"Financial institutions have been used in connection with the sale of goods and services for some time. For example, if the seller meets certain qualifications, the seller may enter into an agreement with a financial institution whereby the financial institution will guarantee the buyer's credit worthiness or payment to the seller for goods sold. To this end, the financial institution may advance some or all of the payment to the seller and then go about collecting the account receivable from the buyer. In return, the financial institution typically receives a commission or some other fee from the seller. " [emphasis added].

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Mandler reference to include the teaching from the Applicant's background section so as to ensure payment on the sale and avoid difficulty in collecting payment from the buyer.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the MANDLER reference to include assigning an interest in the invoice to a financial institution, thereby allowing the financial institution to a bank, this is their incentive for providing the service, to generate a profit.

Conclusion

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

3. Applicants filed 8/7/08 has been fully considered but they are moot in view of new grounds of rejections.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CLEMENT B. GRAHAM whose telephone number is (571)272-6795. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Abdi can be reached on (571) 272-6702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CG

/Frantzy Poinvil/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3696

Nov 20, 2008